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# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959

# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1959.

### MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH and HOUSING COMMITTEE (Whole Council)

Chairman: Councillor J. Costigan

Councillor Mrs. F. Firth,
Councillor Mrs. G. Johnson,
Councillor R. S. Bann,
Councillor A. E. Butler,
Councillor R. Drinkwater,
Councillor J. J. Jackson,
Councillor A. Johnson, M.Sc., J.P. (Chairman of the Council)
Councillor H. H. Littlewood,
Councillor S. Nicholson,
Councillor A. West,
Councillor F. B. Woodward.

(As at 31st December, 1959).

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F.D.F. STEEDE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

A. McLANE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant to Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

B. FOSTER.

Meat Inspectors: (Part-time)

C.E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.

and

N. SALISBURY, M.R.C.V.S.

Council Offices, Whaley Bridge.

Telephone: Whaley Bridge 163.

# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whaley Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report for the year 1959. The report is compiled on similar lines to that of last year with slight modifications to include more detailed information on early neonatal and perinatal mortality to comply with Ministry of Health requirements. The figures forming the basis of the vital statistics are supplied by the Registrar General and bear out ones general impression that the health of the population remains at a satisfactory level.

The Death Rate based on 67 deaths as against 75 in the previous year is fractionally lower at 12.1 but when adjusted for comparison is slightly higher than that for England and Wales. As a cause of death, some form of heart disease heads the list, but at 15 shows a reduction of 7, entirely due to a welcome fall in the number of deaths from coronary thrombosis., while in second place comes vascular lesions of the nervous system "stroke" at 11, showing a reduction of 5 of the previous year's total. No death, for yet another year, was due to tuberculosis, a tribute to modern methods of treatment, and I am very glad to report that under County Council arrangements, school children resident in the district in their early teens have, for the first time, been offered the opportunity to obtain the very valuable protection against tuberculosis provided by B.C.G. Vaccination. While the response has been good the aim must be to ensure that every child who needs such protection obtains it before leaving school.

In striking contrast to the state of affairs with regard to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, lung cancer claims no less than seven deaths - all males - and is equal third as a single cause of death with coronary thrombosis. While we do not know the fundamental cause of lung cancer, we do know enough to implicate both atmospheric pollution and cigarette smoking as contributory factors, and I feel that efforts must be intensified to deter the adolescent from forming an expensive habit which is difficult to break, and which is not only responsible for a large amount of the annual loss due to fire, but at the rate of twenty per day gives him a 1 in 7 chance of ultimately dying from malignant disease. Unfortunately, a major determining factor in the commencing of smoking is often the example of close associates.

The chief occupations of the district are those of cotton weaving, bleaching, and calico printing, and whilst during a period some anxiety was felt with regard to employment, full employment was for the most part maintained. In these days when there is much talk of "connurbations" one is inclined to be surprised by the lively local community spirit which exists in many districts and notably in Whaley Bridge. I should like to pay special tribute to those who play such a lively part in fostering the old peoples clubs.

In conclusion I should like to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for the kindness and consideration which they have shown me since my appointment, and to all the Officers and Staff of the Council for their unfailing support and co-operation.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

F.D.F. STEEDE.

Medical Officer of Health.

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

| | |
|---|---|
| Area of Whaley Bridge Urban District (in acres) . | 3,487 |
| Estimated Population (mid 1959) . . . . . | 5,270 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1959 . . . . . | 1,928 |
| Rateable Value. . . . . | £60,758 |
| Value of Penny Rate . . . . . | £ 242 |

**Vital Statistics.**

| | | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births - Legitimate . . . . . | 64 | 34 | 30 |
| Illegitimate . . . . . | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Total | 66 | 34 | 32 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Live Birth rate per 1,000 population . . . . . | 12.5 |
| Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births | 3.0 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stillbirths - Legitimate. . . . . | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Illegitimate. . . . . | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1 | 0 | 1 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths . . . | | 14.9 | |
| Total live and stillbirths. . . . . | 67 | 34 | 33 |
| Deaths. . . . . | 63 | 37 | 26 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population . . . . . | | 12.0 | |
| Infant Deaths (Under one year of age) Legitimate . . | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Illegitimate. . | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 2 | 1 | 1 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . . . . | 30.3 |
| Leg." " " " " legitimate live births | 15.6 |
| Illeg. " " " " illegitimate " " | 500.0 |

| | | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Neonatal Deaths (Under four weeks). . . . . | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| " Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . . . | | 15.2 | |

| | | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Early Neonatal Deaths (under one week). . . . . | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| " " Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . | | - | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & stillbirths) | 14.9 |
| Maternal deaths (including abortion). . . . . | Nil |
| " Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths | Nil. |

| | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Infant Deaths | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| " Mortality Rate | 16.9 | - | 37.7 | 13.7 | 30.3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm (all ages) . . . . . | 15 |
| " " Measles (all ages). . . . . | 1 |
| " " Whooping Cough (all ages) . . . . . | 0 |
| " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years) . . . . . | 0 |
| " " Respiratory Diseases. . . . . | 4 |

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT

DURING YEAR 1959

| Causes of Death | Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| All Causes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 37 | 26 | 63 |
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 2. " other .. ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 3. Syphilitic Disease ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 4. Diphtheria ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 5. Whooping Cough.. ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 6. Meningococcal Infections ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 8. Measles .. ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases . ... | - | - | - |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ... ... ... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 11. " " lung, bronchus ... ... | 7 | - | 7 |
| 12. " " breast . ... ... ... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 13. " " uterus . ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 16. Diabetes . ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System ... ... | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| 18. Coronary Disease, Angina ... ... ... ... | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .. ... ... | - | - | - |
| 20. Other Heart Disease .. ... ... ... ... | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 21. " Circulatory Disease . ... ... ... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 22. Influenza ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 23. Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 24. Bronchitis ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | - | 4 |
| 25. Other Disease of Respiratory System ... ... | - | - | - |
| 26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ... ... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ... | - | 1 | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 29. Hyperplasia or prostrate ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .. ... ... | - | - | - |
| 31. Congenital Malformations ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases . ... | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ... ... ... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 34. All other Accidents .. ... ... ... ... | 1 | - | 1 |
| 35. Suicide .. ... ... ... ... ... ... | - | - | - |
| 36. Homicide and Operations of War ... ... ... | - | - | - |

Comparison with England and Wales

| | Per 1,000 Population | | Per 1,000 Live Births. | Per 1,000 Total Births. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Live Births (Adjusted) | Death Rate (Adjusted) | Infantile Mortality. | Stillbirths. |
| Whaley Bridge | 12.9 | 12.4 | 30.3 | 14.9 |
| England and Wales | 16.5 | 11.6 | 22.0 | 20.7 |

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

## AS AMENDED BY THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

No action was taken under these powers.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Inspections throughout the area under the various Acts appertaining to Public Health were regularly carried out and any appropriate action taken when necessary.

### Water Supply:

On 1st April, 1959, the water supply came under the control of Stockport Corporation who are now the Statutory Undertakers for the whole of the urban area. Various minor amendments to the mains were carried out to ease supply difficulties. The supply position was very seriously affected by the long drought period experienced during the year, but a regular supply of water to all properties in the area was maintained.

Although the Council is no longer responsible for the production and distribution of water it is still our duty to ensure the safety of the supply, and bacteriological samples will continue to be taken at regular intervals.

## FOOD.

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There was one case of Salmonella Typhi-murium during the year, and the necessary investigations were carried out.

## MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughtering has been carried out within the area at three private slaughterhouses which were licenced by the Council. Post Mortem inspections were carried out and details are here appended.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed | 189 | - | 3 | 909 | 36 | - |
| Number inspected | 189 | - | 3 | 909 | 36 | - |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 5 | - | - | 48 | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 2.6% | - | - | 5.3% | - | - |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 17 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 10.1% | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cysticercosis: | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

## HOUSING.

At the end of the year the Council had 331 houses and bungalows. Of this number, 216 houses and 14 bungalows had been erected during the post war years, whilst during the same period 61 private houses were built.

The number of applicants for council houses at the end of the year was 44, of whom 26 were resident outside the area. In addition there were 48 applications for aged person's bungalows.

During the year no new Council Houses were built, a decision due partly to the higher building and associated costs and partly to the relatively small number of urgent cases for re-housing.

The Council has been giving whole hearted support and publicity to the improvement grant policy and during the year the introduction of the standard grant has given this policy a further impetus. There are still a large number of properties requiring modernisation and the aim must be to bring them up to modern standards by the use of the grant procedure where applicable.

During the year under review the Council approved schemes for improvement grants in respect of 11 houses and authorised the giving of grants amounting to £1,451.

## SEWERAGE.

The sewerage is conveyed through the Council's sewers to the sewerage disposal works at Furness Vale the treatment being carried out by the Whaley Bridge Joint Sewerage Board.

The sewers have been maintained in good condition, cleansing, rodding and repairs being carried out as and when necessary. Nearly all properties within the district are sewered excepting those in Fernilee and Cadster areas.

A ten per cent test baiting of sewer manholes in the area was again carried out to ascertain the extent of rat infestation and only one area of minor infestation was recorded. No extensions to sewers were carried out during the year.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of household refuse was carried out by direct labour using a Karrier Gamecock Refuse Collection vehicle.

The Council have continued to maintain a regular fortnightly service for the collection of refuse, the refuse being tipped on the Council's refuse tip at Fernilee. Difficulty is still being experienced in maintaining satisfactory conditions on this site.

## RAG FLOCK ACT.

There are no premises within the urban area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

## CLEAN AIR ACT.

The industrial undertakings in the area have taken steps to comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act. During the year two factories changed over to full automatic stoking. Smoke observations show that very good progress has been made in the reduction of smoke emission.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE - GENERAL.

Apart from twelve cases of measles, with one death, the incidence of notifiable disease was minimal. In the early part of the year influenza in a mild form was prevalent.

## TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1959.

No new cases or deaths were notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FOR THE YEAR 1959

| Disease | Total Cases Notified (all ages) | Admitted to Hospital | Total Deaths | Analysis of Total Cases in age groups | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Under 1 year | 1- | 2- | 3- | 4- | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-59 | 60- and over | Age Unknown. |
| Smallpox . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever . . . . . | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Diphtheria . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles . . . . . | 12 | - | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough . . . . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Food Poisoning . . . . . | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Meningococcal Infection | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Diseases notifiable locally . . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whaley Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions and a brief summary of work done during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

### Housing.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of houses in district at 31st December, 1959 | - | 1918. |
| New Houses erected during the year by :- | | |
| (a) Local Authority | - | Nil. |
| (b) Private Enterprise | - | 10. |
| | | 1928. |
| Number of houses demolished or closed during 1959 | - | Nil. |
| Number of houses capable of occupation | - | 1928. |
| Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | - | 134. |
| Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation | - | 28. |
| Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | - | Nil. |
| Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of action by local authority (formal or informal) | - | 25. |
| Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | - | Nil. |
| Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | - | Nil. |
| Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted | - | Nil. |
| Number of premises in respect of which Closing Orders were made | - | Nil. |

### Closet Accommodation in the Area.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Houses with pail closet accommodation | - | 24. |
| Houses with privy accommodation | - | 7. |
| Houses with W.C. closet accommodation | - | 1887. |
| Houses converted during year from pail closet to W.C. accommodation | - | 2. |

### Sanitary Inspections.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of inspections made under Public Health, Housing Acts, etc. | - | 1468. |
| Defects or Nuisances:- | | |
| Number discovered | - | 325. |
| Number abated with or without Notice | - | 318. |
| Number of Notices served:- | | |
| Informal Notices | - | 57. |
| Statutory Notices | - | 1. |
| Legal Proceedings | - | Nil. |

| Details of Inspections:- | Inspections. | Nuisances abated. |
|---|---|---|
| Defective Closet Accommodation | 74. | 23. |
| Defective Ashbins or Ashpits | 32. | 20. |
| Drainage Defects | 181. | 121. |
| Housing Repairs | 427. | 33. |
| Offensive Accumulations | 12. | 3. |
| Urinals | 56. | - |
| Flooding of Cellars | 6. | 1. |
| Foul Condition of Houses | 11. | 1. |
| Animals improperly kept | 16. | 1. |
| Water Supply | 58. | 19. |
| Bakehouses | 15. | - |
| Factories and Workshops | 65. | 3. |
| Shops and Food Premises | 141. | 3. |
| Rodent Control | 152. | 53. |
| Moveable Dwellings | 16. | 2. |
| Other Inspections | 206. | 42. |

## DRAINAGE.

Number of houses in district connected to sewers - 1752.
Number of houses in district not connected to sewers - 176.
Number of houses connected to main sewerage system during year - 10.

## FACTORIES.

There are 36 Factories and Workshops in the area, the number of inspections and action taken being given in the following table:-

| Premises | Inspections. | Notices Served. | Occupiers Prosecuted. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Factories (With Mechanical Power) | 16. | - | - |
| Factories (Without Mechanical Power) | 49. | 1 | - |
| Other premises | - | - | - |

Defects found in Factories were as follows:-

| Paticulars. | Number of Defects. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred by H.M. Inspector |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) | - | - | - |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - |
| Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - |
| (d) Other offences against the Act | - | - | - |

## OUTWORK.

Number of outworkers on Register - 5.
(All outworkers are engaged on sewing)
Number of cases of work undertaken on unwholesome premises - Nil.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | tins | of | Cooked Ham. | 6 | tins | of | Chopped Pork. |
| 15 | " | " | Corned Beef. | 4 | " | " | Ox Tongues. |
| 8 | " | " | Tomatoes. | 7, | " | " | Fruit Salad. |
| 8 | " | " | Pineapples. | 14 | " | " | Peas. |
| 5 | " | " | Plums. | 3 | " | " | Cherries. |
| 5 | " | " | Grapefruit. | 11 | " | " | Soup. |
| 11 | " | " | Salmon. | 7 | " | " | Beans. |
| 18 | " | " | Peaches. | 4 | " | " | Condensed Milk. |
| 8 | " | " | Pears. | | | | |

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Details of houses supplied with water at 31st December, 1959.

| | | Estimated population. |
|---|---|---|
| Number of houses in district supplied with water from mains | 1901. | 5205. |
| Number of houses supplied with water from standpipes | Nil. | Nil. |
| Number of houses supplied with water from private sources | 27. | 65. |

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McLANE.

Public Health Inspector.